



Snow and Ice Control



Living in West Richland, we all know how unpredictable our winter weather can be. Our winters can vary from little or no snow accumulation to extreme winters with more than 50 inches of snow. Storm events of freezing fog and rain along with wind driven snow drifts can also vary year to year.

With a population of over 12,000 residents and over 138 lane miles of roadways, the City strives to provide a safe and acceptable level of snow and ice control. Our fleet consists of three dump trucks equipped with snow plows and sander beds, a one-ton pickup truck with a snow plow, a one-ton pickup truck with a sander and a one-ton pickup truck with deicing equipment. In emergency situations, outside contractors and equipment may be used.

The City relies on information such as wind, temperature, humidity, current and projected snow accumulation, and monitors several weather forecasts to determine equipment and methods utilized for storm events. When the weather forecasts a high probability of a snow storm or icy conditions, the street division is mobilized to apply liquid anti-icing chemicals to arterial streets, collector streets and steep hill streets. The amount of accumulation and recurrence of storm events determine if and when plowing and sanding equipment will be called out in accordance with the following priorities: 1) Steep hill streets (Bombing Range Road, Collins Road, S. 45th Ave, Mazzard Ave, and Candy Mountain Ave); 2) Main arterial streets; 3) Collector streets and school zones; and 4) Residential streets.

During severe or prolonged snow storm events, priority 1 and 2 streets may have to be plowed numerous times before moving onto lower priority streets. On occasion the road conditions have become so severe the Police Department has had to close the hill section of Bombing Range. If this occurs, please use Paradise Way, Belmont Blvd., and Keene Road to access Van Giesen.



During minor snow events when temperatures are predicted to rise well above freezing, priority 4 residential streets are typically not plowed. When residential streets are plowed, it is inevitable that driveways and sidewalks will be blocked. We're sorry for this inconvenience, but please be understanding that it cannot be avoided.

Meetings

- Jan. 1 City Council meeting - canceled
- Jan. 2 West Richland Chamber meeting
Sandberg Event Center - Noon
- Jan. 10 Planning Commission meeting
Library - 7:00 PM
- Jan. 14 Economic Development Board mtg
Library - 5:30 PM
- Jan. 15 City Council meeting
Library - 7:00 PM
- Jan. 28 Park Board meeting
Library - 6:30 PM

A meeting and events calendar is available on the city website on the home page under Quick Links. Agendas are also posted on the web pages for City Council and Boards and Commissions. On the top menu of the home page click on Government, then Council or Boards and Commissions.

City Holiday Closures

City offices will be closed on January 21st in observance of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.

New City Office Hours

Effective February 1, 2013, City office hours will be as follows:

City Administration/Utilities:	8:30 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Public Works/Community Development:	8:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Police Department:	8:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

New Animal Control Officer

Welcome to Drew Hendrickson, the City's new part-time animal control officer. Drew will perform investigative and patrol work related to enforcement of animal control ordinances and statutes. He will also oversee maintenance, care and disposition of animals held by the City.

Drew grew up in West Richland and attended Tapteal Elementary and Hanford Middle and High Schools. He previously worked as an animal control officer in and around Atlanta, GA, and attended the Georgia Animal Control Academy. He is a certified dog trainer, was lead cruelty investigator, and has developed humane education programs. He and his wife have helped several rescue organizations, including fostering dogs. He is currently working on developing adoption and humane education programs.



Happy New Year! Time to Renew Licenses and Discounts

Dog Licenses: The City requires dog owners to license dogs over 7 months old and within 30 days of acquiring the dog. Dog license renewals are due by February 28, 2013. If you have a current dog license, you will receive a reminder notice early in January. When renewing, you may need to provide a valid rabies certification and if applicable, proof of spay or neuter.

Senior Discount: To apply for 2013, the account holder must provide proof of all sources of taxable and nontaxable revenue coming into the household for all members of the household. To qualify: 1) applicant must be over the age of 61; 2) account must be in the name of the applicant; and 3) total of all household revenue needs to be below \$24,750.

Discounts for first time applicants will be effective the first full billing cycle after their application is approved. For renewals, the application must be completed and approved by April 15th to avoid losing the discounted status. Accounts with an existing discount will continue in that status until the end of the March billing cycle, and then revert to regular rates if a new application is not on file.

Did You Know...

West Richland Municipal Code 12.20.020, Sidewalk snow and ice removal states:

It shall be the duty of all property owners or persons having charge or control of any premises bordered by city right-of-way to clean, maintain, and repair public sidewalks, driveways, or planting strips constructed thereon in a reasonable and safe condition.

Awards for Outstanding Community Service

The West Richland Chamber recognizes community leaders for their outstanding contributions to the community. They are currently accepting nominations for the following awards: Educator, Business, Firefighter, Volunteer, Chamber Member, Police Officer, and the Community Spirit Award. The nomination deadline is January 15, 2013. All nominees must be either a West Richland Area Chamber Member or work or reside in West Richland.

The awards will be presented to recipients during the awards banquet on Friday, February 8, 2013, at O'Callahan's Restaurant & Catering - Shilo Inn.

For more information or a nomination form, contact the Chamber Office at 967-0521.